

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims**1-38 (Cancelled)**

Claim 39 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof.

Claim 40 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof.

Claim 41 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof.

Claim 42 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof.

Claim 43 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence which is at least 90% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide which is capable of functioning as a phosphate transport ATP-binding protein.

Claim 44 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 90% identity with the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof, and wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide which is capable of functioning as a phosphate transport ATP-binding protein.

Claim 45 (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of at least 50 contiguous nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof.

Claim 46 (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 39-45.

Claim 47 (New) The vector of claim 46, which is an expression vector.

Claim 48 (New) A host cell transfected with the expression vector of claim 47.

Claim 49 (New) The host cell of claim 48, wherein said cell is a bacterial cell.

Claim 50 (New) The host cell of claim 49, wherein said cell belongs to the genus *Corynebacterium* or *Brevibacterium*.

Claim 51 (New) The host cell of claim 49, wherein the expression of said nucleic acid molecule results in the modulation in production of a fine chemical from said cell.

Claim 52 (New) The host cell of claim 51, wherein said fine chemical is selected from the group consisting of: consisting of: organic acids, proteinogenic and nonproteinogenic amino acids, purine and pyrimidine bases, nucleosides, nucleotides, lipids, saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, diols, carbohydrates, aromatic compounds, vitamins, cofactors, polyketides, and enzymes.

Claim 53 (New) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 39, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is disrupted.

Claim 54 (New) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 39, wherein the regulatory region of the nucleic acid molecule is modified relative to the wild-type regulatory region of the molecule.